

*A<sup>2</sup>*  
*CONCL'D.*

the process enzyme is selected from the group consisting of amylases, lyases, lipases and cellulases.

35. The protein variant of claim 32, which is a medicinal protein.
36. The protein variant of claim 35, wherein the medicinal protein is a hormone selected from the group consisting of insulin, HCG and growth hormone.
37. The protein variant of claim 32, which is a medicinal enzyme.
38. The protein variant of claim 37, wherein the medicinal enzyme is factor V, factor VII or factor VIII.
39. The protein variant of claim 32, which is another protein selected from the group consisting of interleukins and interferons.

#### REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is submitted simultaneously with the filing of the present divisional application. By this amendment, applicant has canceled claims 1-23 and replaced such claims with new claims 24-39. New claims 24-39 are based on original claims 1-7, 18 and 19. The claims as rewritten set forth the invention in language which more fully accords with U.S. practice and rules to assist the Examiner in his or her consideration of any differences between the claimed invention and the prior art. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Early examination and favorable consideration of the above-captioned application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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